

All communications
should be addressed
to the Secretary.

No. 48 M
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

Civil Works
Miscellaneous

Fort William, 21st Feb. 1881

Copy of the following, with copy of
enclosures, forwarded to the Government
of Madras in the Public Works Dept.,
for such action as may be deemed
necessary. -

By Order
W. R. Goukings Captain R. E.

S. S. W.

Appt. Secy. to the Govt. of India

Indian Office S. W.

London, 21st Jan. 1881

Public Works

To

The Secy. to Government in
Public Works Dept.
Calcutta

Sir,

Herewith is forwarded
for

for information, copy of a communication,
with enclosure, which has been ad-
dressed to this Office by Colonel
F. Beaumont R.E., in respect to a
system of blasting rocks in deep
water, in aid of dredging operations.

Further enquiries regarding the
details and cost of the system can
be made, should the matter be
deemed of sufficient importance
by the Government of India.

I have &c
Cp. Juland Danvers
Secy., Public Works Dept.

3 Victoria Street, Westminster
30th December 1880

To
The Director General of Stores
India Office

Sir,
Panumber Channel

I have the honor to enclose
copy of a letter which I have
received.

received from Messrs Simons, the maker
of the Dredger, which is deepening the
Panumber Channel.

I have been informed by them
that the Dredger is now undergoing re-
pairs, necessitating a stoppage of the work
in consequence of the abnormal strain
put upon the machinery by Rocks lying
in the bed of the Channel.

The case is similar to that of the
Tees, and again in the Clyde. In the
former river, the Dredgers had no diffi-
culty in lifting the rock after it had
been blasted with Dynamite by my
system, some 1200 to 1500 Tons per day
having been removed by the Dredger.

In the Clyde I am about commencing
a similar operation.

My machinery and system enable
the rocks to be efficiently hoed and
blasted in deep water, without the use
of Divers; thus not only enabling work
to be done which could not be effected
by the Dredger alone, but, as apparently
appear

appears in the case of the Paumber Channel, it would permit of the Dredger doing an increased amount of work with a great saving of wear and tear, and that at a comparatively small cost.

My object in writing is respectfully to draw your attention to the above facts, and to say that, should you think the matter worthy of further consideration, I should be happy to furnish an estimate for the necessary plant.

I have &c

(By) Fred. Beaumont

London Works, Renfrew
23^d December 1880

20

Col. Beaumont R.E.

Dear Sir,

A few years ago we constructed for the India Govt a first class Screw Dredger named "Albuquerque." We learn from the Dredger Master we sent out that she has been recently employed dredging (for 18

months) the Paumber Channel, and that they meet projecting volcanic rock frequently, against which the steel points or lips of the Dredger buckets are severely torn and wrenched, and he remarks on the advantage to them it would be to have a proper staff of men for blasting such rocks, when the Dredger could easily raise the debris afterwards.

As you are blasting a rock here in the Clyde, we take the liberty of drawing your attention to the above, in case the India Govt might think proper to facilitate the dredging operations of the "Albuquerque" by adopting in connection therewith your blasting system.

We &c

(By) W. Simons & Co

S. W. C. No. 1217.

Received 28 Feb. 1881.

3/ No. 549.
~~459~~ W
1st March 1881.
Recorded
with reference to
No. 485 W (app. 28 Feb. 1881)
J. W.

Administrative Department.

MADRAS,

Marine Office,

1st March 1881.

No. 1976

From

THE MASTER ATTENDANT,

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT,

MADRAS,

To

The Secretary to Government
Public Works Department
Fort Saint George

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge

the receipt of the papers relating to the dredge

Letter from Colonel H. Beaumont
to the Director General of Stores
India Office dated December 30th 1880
- & from Messrs W. Simons and Co.
to Colonel Beaumont dated December
23rd 1880.

Letter from the Secretary to Government
Public Works Department India Office
dated January 21st 1881
by O. No. 4680 W. dated February 21st 1881.

"Albion", and Colonel
Beaumont's method of blasting
without divers in a channel
like Pambour, and to remark
that it is very desirable
that all possible information

should be gathered on this important and useful
matter. So far, however, as the "Albion" is
concerned, her work was not stopped for the
reasons given. She had finished the work
required of her in the sand-bank channel, and
is altogether too large to work in the deep
channel, where such work as Colonel Beaumont's
would be useful.

2

The vessel has been six years
without

without any repair or examination, and a survey was imperatively necessary, hence she was sent to Bombay.

3 It is true that while working in the Sand-bank Channel, where a depth of sixteen feet was all that was demanded, the reef channel being only fourteen, those in charge imprudently, and without instructions from me, dredged down to nineteen feet, and coming upon Coral rock injured the lips of the buckets. Unless a ship Canal on a large scale is projected through Bombay, I would deprecate any greater depth than now obtains, as the whole Native trade, which I consider we owe it to India to protect in some way, would be ruined, and the receipts of the Port, which now pay all expenses would fall off, and render the port a charge upon Government, while the benefit would be confined to a very few small class Coasting Steamers, for whose advantage the Coast of Belyon have already been lighted at great cost

cost to the State.

I have the honor to be
Sir

Your most Obedt Servant

W. P. Lawton
Minster Attendant
Administrative Department

MM

S.W. C. No 1344.

P.B. No: 468 W. 21-2-81.
469

Alarming remarks upon
Canton papers from
the India Office re-
garding the Albuquerque

1st
Dated 13th March 1881.
Received -
No. 1976.

From
THE MASTER ATTENDANT,
ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT,
MADRAS,
To
THE SECRETARY TO GOVT.
Public Works Deptt.

W. H. A. Robertson
H. Enslin, Esq. Governor

With order

It has already been
decided to call for
more complete infor-
mation in reference
to Col. Beaumont's
system in removing
submarine rocks, so
the question raised in
the letter of the Master
Attendant (No 1976 of
P.W. inst.) herewith is
directly concerns the
future use to which
to put the bridge
"Albuquerque" which
has lately been repaired
in Bombay.

As she takes up some
800 ft. with her side
cables out she is alto-
gether unsuited for the
narrow & rocky portion
of the Panthen Channel
and would indeed

MA
WPA

"block the way" in
nearly all our ports
if she could in other
respects be left to
work in them where she
is wanted

The fact I believe
to be is that she is
a "white Elephant"
pure and simple - the
Sandy Hook of the
Panama Channel is
the only place where she
can be made apparently
of any use, and even
that seems in doubtful

The employment of
this drible which I
think cost over 2
Lakhs will soon pass
of the kind duty which
Capt. Taylor and I have
been to perform in
visiting the Southern
ports, and therefore
the question relating
to her way in the
present at least be

considered a long
in obedience

~~Alt~~

10/3/81

No. 408 of 17th March/81.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

~~Under date the~~

Read the following:—

From The Master Attendant, Madras
No. 1976 dated 1st March 1881.

Recorded with
reference to G. O.
No. 468 W of 21st Feb/88.

L.
Att^y

10/3/81

ad
H. 2.

Dynamite

By 40 W 9 17 - March 1881